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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/213,970 | 12/17/1998 | WILHELMUS J. DIEPSTRATEN | DIEPSTRATEN1 | 6151 |

27964 7590 04/16/2003

HITT GAINES & BOISBRUN P.C.
P.O. BOX 832570
RICHARDSON, TX 75083

EXAMINER

DONAGHUE, LARRY D

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2154

DATE MAILED: 04/16/2003

13

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



09/21/3, 440

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EXAMINER

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

See attached

LARRY D. DONAGHUE
PRIMARY EXAMINER


Art Unit: 2154

The reply brief filed 03/26/03 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to L. Donaghue whose telephone number is (703) 305-9675. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An , can be reached on (703) 305-9678. The fax phone number for an official fax is (703) 746-7238, an after-final fax is 703-746-7238 and a draft or non-official fax is 703-746-7240.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



LARRY D. DONAGHUE
PRIMARY EXAMINER